

House Resolution 1683

By: Representatives Maxwell of the 17th, Mills of the 25th, Cox of the 102nd, Meadows of the 5th, Houston of the 170th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF) is a national nonprofit
3 organization dedicated to giving new hope for families affected by mitochondrial diseases –
4 hereditary disorders, now considered as common as childhood cancers, that affect the cell's
5 ability to produce life-sustaining energy; and

6 WHEREAS, the UMDF's mission is to promote research and education for the diagnosis,
7 treatment, and cure of mitochondrial disorders and to provide support to affected individuals
8 and families, regardless of diagnosis; and

9 WHEREAS, one in 4,000 children born today will be diagnosed before the age of ten with
10 a mitochondrial disease that has no cure; and

11 WHEREAS, mitochondrial disease primarily afflicts children when their mitochondria are
12 not generating enough energy or any at all, causing more than 200 inherited diseases of the
13 metabolism that could result in seizures, diabetes, autism, developmental delays or
14 regression, stroke, migraines, hearing deficits, short stature, disorders of extraocular
15 muscles, vision loss, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer dementia, heart disease, and cancer; and

16 WHEREAS, the UMDF tirelessly works to raise awareness and rally the public against this
17 insidious affliction, and today has a mailing list of over 13,000; and

18 WHEREAS, the UMDF will host its 8th International Symposium, "Mastering the
19 Mitochondrial Maze," dedicated to mitochondrial medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 14
20 through 17, 2006; during the symposium, over 500 researchers, scientists, physicians, and
21 other allied health professionals from all over the world will join families to discuss
22 mitochondrial diseases and to share and advance information in the field; and

1 WHEREAS, while the disorder sadly has no cure right now, the United Mitochondrial
2 Disease Foundation is leading the way in the fight to one day make mitochondrial disease a
3 thing of the past.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
5 the members of this body join in commending the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation
6 for its efforts in the battle against mitochondrial diseases and thanking the foundation for all
7 it does to help families struggling with the disorder.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Atlanta chapter of the
10 United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation.